

## The Watchman and Southron.

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The Watchman and Southron.

ALABAMA RACE TROUBLES.

TROOPS AND OFFICERS PRE-

VENT BLOODSHED IN ALA-

BAMA.

Well-Founded Report That Negroes

Of Magnolia, Angered by Slaying

Of One of Their Color, Had Plan-

ned Wholesale Attack on Town

Chase Whites to Arm Themselves

and Prepare for Fight.

Magnolia, Ala., Dec. 21.—With State

troops and armed deputies patrolling

the streets and the public roads lead-

ing into the town, and with thirty-

three of the negro ring-leaders cor-

ralled in an improvised stockade, the

threatened race war is believed to

night to have been averted. Excite-

ment, however, has not been alto-

gether allayed and tonight every

white man's house in Magnolia and

for several miles around is guarded

against threatened revengeful action

on the part of negroes who resent the

burning yesterday of Clint Montgom-

ery, one of the four negro desper-

ados, brothers, charged with the kill-

ing Saturday night of Algonron

Lewis.

This action for miles around was

stirred this morning by reports that

the negroes were planning to attack

the town tonight, burn the resi-

dences and murder every white per-

son in the town and the negroes

at 6 o'clock this afternoon, Magnolia

was filled with armed white men and

a fierce clash with the negroes was

imminent. Doubtless the arrival of

seventy-five soldiers here at 6 o'clock

prevented bloodshed. Several of the

negroes connected with the alleged

plan to burn the town had already

been apprehended and only the cool-

er heads among the citizens and

Sheriff Grant and seventy-five armed

deputies prevented summary ven-

geance being meted out to them be-

fore the Selma troops reached here.

The officers assert that they have

matters well in hand tonight.

Last night Sam Shields, a relative

of Tom Shields, one of the four white

men shot by Clint Montgomery yester-

day, reported that he overheard a

number of negroes plotting a system-

atic attack upon the whites. There

was a large gathering of the negroes

at a house near town, and Mr. Shields

says they planned to go from house

to house in Magnolia applying the

torch and killing the occupants as

they made effort to escape from the

flames. Runners were sent out af-

ter midnight conveying this informa-

tion to the whites. It was learned

that for several weeks past the ne-

groes have been purchasing firearms,

and this added color to the reports

that they were planning a combined

attack upon the whites.

A visit was made today to the

## DR. COOK'S FINISH.

COPENHAGEN UNIVERSITY DE-  
CLARES HE DID NOT DIS-  
COVER POLE.Explorer's Friends Begin to Believe  
That as the Scientists' Findings  
Assert, He Has Humbugged the  
Public in His Statements.Copenhagen, Dec. 21.—The report  
of the special committee of scientists  
which the University of Copenhagen  
appointed to scrutinize Dr. Frederick  
A. Cook's claims that he had discovered  
the North Pole, was submitted  
to the consistory of the university  
this morning, indorsed by that body  
and given to the public.The report shatters completely, al-  
most contemptuously, the American  
explorer's title to such discovery and  
fills the officials and people of Den-  
mark with chagrin at the figure Den-  
mark is made to assume in the eyes  
of the scientific world. The public  
was prepared for a verdict of "not  
proved" but did not expect its recent  
hero to be branded as an impostor.Many still cling to the belief that  
Cook acted in good faith, but har-  
bored a delusion.Explorers and scientists almost  
unanimously have lost faith in  
Cook's honesty, while one of the  
warmest of his supporters, Knud  
Rasmussen, the explorer, helped to  
frame the report. The evening pa-  
pers attack Cook and severely re-  
proach him for hiding, which they re-  
gard as a sign of guilty conscience.The rector of the university, Dr.  
Salomonson, when asked as to the  
possibility of the university cancel-  
ling the degree which it conferred on  
Dr. Cook, said that no decision had  
been reached but he thought that  
the degree could be withdrawn in the  
same way as a government could de-  
prive a person of an order obtained  
under false pretense.Commodore Gustav Holm, the Ar-  
ctic explorer, a member of the com-  
mittee, said:"Cook's claim that he made the  
observation 59 degrees 59 minutes 48  
seconds near the pole proved imme-diately that he was a bad observer,  
a swindler. Now his papers convict  
him of being a swindler. We exam-ined Cook's observations first, and  
agreed unanimously that they were  
worthless. Loose's observations were  
not used in the papers Cook submit-

ted to the university."

Prof. Olesen, secretary of the  
Danish Geographical Society, said:  
"It is the saddest event in my life.As an explorer there seems to be no  
doubt that Cook is absolutely unre-

liable.

The committee appointed by the  
university to examine Cook's records  
recently presented its report to the  
consistory of the university which  
reviewed the deductions of the ex-

perts with the greatest care and dis-

cussed the findings from every stand-

point. That both the committee and  
the consistory were disappointed was  
soon known.The consistory met today and  
adopted a written report to the ef-

fect that the alleged records submit-

ted for examination by Dr. Cook failed  
to prove his claim that he had  
reached the North Pole. After ob-taining all available information the  
committee finds as follows:First, the report of the expedition  
sent to the university by Dr. Cook is  
the same as that printed in the New  
York Herald during the months of  
September and October last.Second, the copy of Cook's note  
books does not contain any original  
astronomical observations whatso-

ever but only results.

Third, the documents presented  
are inexcusably lacking in informa-

tion which would prove that the as-

tronomical observation therein refer-

red to were really made; and also  
contain no details regarding the  
practical work of the expedition and  
the sledge journey which would en-able the committee to determine  
their reliability.The committee therefore is of the  
opinion that the material transmit-

## ZELAYA FORCES PUT TO ROUT.

INSURGENT ARMY WINS A SIG-  
NAL VICTORY.News Received in Washington of the  
Defeat of the Regular Army of  
Nicaragua by Gen. Estrada's  
Forces, and the Battle, It is Said  
Means the Beginning of the End.Washington, Dec. 21.—Zelaya's  
troops were routed by the Nicara-  
guan revolutionists today in a fierce  
battle at Rama, lasting several hours,  
according to advices received here  
this afternoon. Gen. Estrada, in  
command of the revolutionary army,  
is reported to have been successful  
all along the line. The battle is to  
be renewed tomorrow, the advices de-  
clare, and the Estrada army will  
bend all efforts to compel the uncon-ditional surrender of the govern-  
ment forces.There is some doubt as to the ex-  
act extent of Estrada's success. From  
revolutionary sources the word is  
sent that the victory over the Zela-  
yan troops is "complete." The State  
department has received word from  
Thomas H. Moffatt, United States  
Consul at Bluefields, that Estrada had  
"partially routed and defeated the  
forces of Zelaya." It is agreed, how-  
ever, that the moral effect of such  
initial success on the part of the re-  
volutionists can hardly be exaggerated.The first announcement of success of  
the Estrada arms came in a cable-  
gram to Dr. Castillo, the represen-tative here of the Provisional govern-  
ment. It was signed "Diaz." Diaz is  
secretary of the State of the Provi-sional government. The cablegram  
said: "Complete victory is ours. Ze-  
laya's troops are in retreat." Later  
the State department gave out the  
following message from Consul Mof-fatt from Colon:  
"Estrada forces at Tumbula and  
Recreo, near Rama, commanded by  
Gen. Mena at the former place and  
Gens. Chamorro, Mattuti and Fernos  
Diaz, at the latter place, partially  
routed and defeated the forces of Ze-laya after desperate fighting for sev-  
eral hours. The Zelayan forces were  
commanded by Gen. Gonzales. A  
great many were killed, the number  
being unknown; 100 were wounded  
and 150 prisoners were taken by the  
revolutionists. The Zelayan troops at  
Recreo have occupied what has been  
considered a strong position. Estrada  
is confident of defeating the enemy  
when he renews the attack to-  
morrow and of securing their surren-

der."

The clash between the two armies  
was not unexpected here. For days  
on end they have been lying practi-cally idle in their trenches around  
Rama, skirmishes only marring the  
peace that brooded over that sec-tion. Estrada played a waiting game  
in the hope that the Zelayan com-manders would take the initiative  
and attempt the capture of his posi-tion, which was reported to be very  
strong. Furthermore, with the wan-ing of President Zelaya's star he ex-  
pected a large number of accessions  
from the Zelayan army.

When Zelaya abdicated and prac-

tically dictated the election of Dr.  
Madriz as his successor, Estrada, ac-cording to his diplomatic friends  
here, determined to strike. Accord-ingly he moved his army forward  
early today and took the field activ-ely against his enemy. Dr. Castillo  
and his friends look forward confi-dently to the receipt tomorrow of  
word of a complete victory and the  
beginning of the march of the victori-

ous army on the capital.

None of the officials of the State  
department tonight would discuss  
the reported victory of Estrada. It  
is known, however, that the news was  
welcome. Had the Zelayan army  
won over Estrada, this government  
would have been in a somewhat em-barrassing position, having espoused  
openly the cause of the Provisional  
government.In Central American diplomatic  
circles the word brought joy, and  
there was a celebration tonight. The  
diplomats join in the prediction that  
this first victory is the "beginning of  
the end" of Zelayism and the next  
step will be to force the retirement  
of President Madriz, on the ground that  
he is a tool of Zelaya and not the  
real choice of the country.

The public is unable to compre-

hend why Cook sent his papers when  
he admits in the letter presented to  
Prof. Torp, former rector of the Uni-versity for examination do not con-  
tain observations and information  
which can be regarded as proof that  
Dr. Cook reached the North Pole on  
his recent expedition."

The public is unable to compre-

## ZELAYA'S MAN ELECTED.

FORMER JUSTICE BECOMES  
PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA.Unanimous Choice of Zelaya's  
Friend Pleases Populace of Man-  
agua—Congress Snubs American  
Meddlers.Managua, Dec. 20.—Dr. Jose Mad-  
riz, former judge of Central Ameri-  
can court of justice at Cartago and  
Zelaya's candidate, was today elected  
president of Nicaragua by the unani-  
mous vote of congress. The session  
was a stormy one but there seemed  
to be perfect unanimity with regard  
to the election of Madriz and when  
the official announcement was made  
there were vociferous cheering and  
cries of "Viva Madriz!" "Viva Leon.""Down with monopolies!" "Down with  
tyranny." "Long live the constitu-

tion."

Mr. Madriz will assume the presi-

dency at 10 o'clock tomorrow. He  
was escorted to the house today and  
was greeted by great crowds of peo-  
ple. He made a brief speech urging  
harmony and cooperation. He prom-ised that he would uphold the rights  
of the citizens, granting free elections  
and establishing a policy of equal  
opportunities for all.At the afternoon session congress  
accepted the resignation of Dr. Mad-  
riz as judge of the Central American  
court and P. Anyuga Pardo was ap-

pointed to succeed him.

The committee which as the resi-

gnation of Zelaya in hand then recom-

mended its acceptance and the formu-

lating of an address of thanks to  
Zelaya for his services to Nicaragua.  
Following the adoption of this re-port the election of a successor was  
proceeded with, the nomination of  
Dr. Madriz being greeted with much  
enthusiasm.The strength of his following in  
the house was attested by the fact  
that on the call for a standing vote  
every member rose to his feet in the  
affirmative.

FAILED TO DELIVER COTTON.

Suit Begun by Savannah Against Co-

lumbia Factor.

Columbia, Dec. 18.—A petition in  
bankruptcy of great interest to cot-ton factors and cotton growers, and  
which throws an increasing side-light  
on the practice which has prevailed  
in this and other Southern States for  
the past several years of buying cot-ton for the farms for future delivery,  
has been filed against Mr. L. V. Dibil-le, a prominent Columbia factor, on  
behalf of Savannah factors and oth-ers, for failure to deliver cotton at  
a price agreed upon. Barron, Moore  
& Barron represent the petitioners  
and their petition has gone to Char-leston to be filed in the Federal  
Court there. This action was taken  
after a meeting of the creditors here.Mr. Dibble offered to turn over his  
assets, but this offer appears to have  
been declined.It is understood that the liabilities  
are about \$75,000 and the assets  
something less than \$25,000, though  
the exact figures could not be obtain-

ed today.

Mr. Dibble's troubles, it seems, are  
due to refusal on the part of many  
farmers who had contracted last win-ter and spring to deliver cotton, to  
come up with the cotton after they  
saw the price had advanced so sharp-

ly, contending that they were not le-

gally or morally bound by the agree-

ment, inasmuch as, in their opinion,  
the transaction was a gambling one.Mr. Dibble was therefore unable to  
deliver to the firms he contracted  
with, and they having in turn sold,  
are now falling back on him for the  
difference.It is said that one man living in the  
lower part of the State, who is worth  
\$50,000, has repudiated contracts he  
made with half a dozen cotton fac-tors. Calculating on making a good  
little margin, he agreed to deliver cot-

ton this fall at prices ranging be-

tween 9 and 12 cents. When the fall

## ASKS FOR INVESTIGATION.

TAFT YIELDS TO DEMAND FOR  
INQUIRY INTO SECRETARY'S  
OFFICIAL ACTS.Inquiry To Be Made With All Publi-  
city—Examination of His Cabinet  
Officer's Record in Regard to Land  
Deals Will Be Thorough, It is Now  
Promised.Washington, Dec. 20.—President  
Taft today yielded to the demands of  
both Secretary Ballinger and his crit-  
ics for a public investigation of the  
whole subject matter underlying the  
so-called Ballinger-Pinchot contro-

versy.

Mr. Ballinger this afternoon served  
upon the president virtually an ulti-matum to the effect that such an  
investigation was indeed the price of  
his remaining in the cabinet. He  
made it clear to the president that he  
is no longer willing to sit silent and  
wait for the thing to "blow over."Mr. Taft, it is said, admitted the  
disappointment of his hope that the  
country at large would accept as final  
his own vindication of Mr. Ballin-ger in his dismissal of the charges  
brought before him against the sec-retary of the interior by L. E. Glavis,  
the former special agent of the land  
office, and his conclusion that the in-vestigation demanded by both sides  
in this matter was inevitable.Mr. Ballinger's attitude in this  
matter has the support of leading  
Republicans in both branches of  
congress, senators and representa-tives who feel that entirely apart  
from the merits of the controversy  
itself, a festering sore of this charac-ter must poison the whole system of  
the party in power, and that it is  
high time to resort to the lance.The leaders, determined that a  
cleansing of this wound is necessary,  
have not hesitated to go to the White  
House and impress their views upon  
Mr. Taft.

Conference of a confidential char-

acter, in which members of the cabi-

net, party leaders in both houses of  
congress and the president himself  
have participated, have been held at  
various times during the past fewdays. They culminated today when  
Secretary Ballinger, Attorney Gen-  
eral Wickersham and Postmaster  
General Hitchcock met in Mr. Wic-kersham's office and proceeded thence  
to the White House, where the mat-

ter was laid before the president.

Mr. Ballinger told the president, it  
is said, that the situation had become  
intolerable to him and that, though  
the constant charges against him  
had come from irresponsible persons,  
he could no longer sit supinely by,  
and in justice to himself he felt com-

pelled to insist upon an investigation.

DOUBLE TRACK WORK BEGUN.

Coast Line Improvement Starts At  
Florence.Florence, Dec. 18.—The Atlantic  
Coast Line Railway Company has let  
the contract for double-tracking their  
main line from Florence to Pee-Dee  
River trestle, a distance of twelve  
miles and the contractors, Messrs.Phillips and Alsport, of Richmond,  
Va., have already begun work with  
a large gang of foremen and laborers.They are now working near Wilson,  
on the Pee Dee end and will push  
this work with all possible dispatch.Messrs. Phillips and Alsport were  
the contractors who had the concrete  
work on the new Pee Dee trestle and  
they have completed their job and  
are moving a part of their forces to  
the Cheraw and Darlington Road, at  
Thompson Creek, one mile south of  
Cheraw, where they will put in con-crete piers, and steel girders across  
that swamp. This is on the main  
line of the new route to Cincinnati  
and the west over the Coast Line and  
the Norfolk and Western roads.Holmes Robertson, a young white  
man of Chester county, who was ac-cidentally shot by Bob Burns, col-  
ored on Thanksgiving day, is dead as  
a result of the wound.

DISPENSARY SALES LAST MONTH

Totals For Twenty-One Counties  
Amount to \$252,837.87.Columbia, Dec. 19.—According to a  
statement by Dispensary Auditor  
West the total sales by the dispen-saries in twenty-one counties for the  
month of November was \$252,837.87,  
breakage \$1,240.07 and operating ex-penses \$12,427.69. Fifteen of the  
counties closed on November 15, and  
the statement only refers to the sales  
for half the month. There were no  
sales in Hampton county. No reports  
have as yet been received from Bam-

berg and Kershaw.

## HOSPITAL NEEDS \$600,000.

SENATOR CHRISTENSEN SPEAKS  
OF COMMITTEE'S REPORT.Six Hundred Thousand Dollars Mini-  
mum Amount Required to Rem-  
edy Intolerable Conditions in In-  
stitution.Charleston, Dec. 20.—Senator Niels  
Christensen of Beaufort, was in  
Charleston today, and as chairman  
of the joint legislative committee ap-pointed to investigate the State Hos-  
pital for the Insane at Columbia, he  
said that the investigation has been  
concluded and the committee is  
now formulating its report for sub-

mission to the general assembly.

"The testimony taken before the  
committee," said Senator Christen-sen, "is being printed and will be  
available in a few days. Any mem-ber of the legislature and any news-  
paper interested may have a copy by  
sending a request to a member of the  
committee. The most important

matter to be considered at the com-

ing session of the legislature is the  
report of the committee that has  
investigated the State Hospital for  
the Insane. Unfortunately, the re-port will not be ready for two or  
three weeks. It will contain several  
special reports by experts which are  
not yet prepared. These together  
with facts gathered by the commit-tee from personal examination of  
physical conditions and records here  
and elsewhere are perhaps more im-

portant than the testimony of wit-